

# WARD 6

# FALL 2019 RESISTAT

---

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone  
City Councilor Lance Davis



# Agenda

- **Quick Updates**
  - Taylor Ko
- **Somerville Fire Department**
  - Chief Charles Breen
- **Somerville Police Department**
  - Chief David Fallon
- **Engineering**
  - Rich Raiche, Director of Infrastructure & Asset Management
- **Thinking Outside the Big Box**
  - Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

# SomerBaby



- A universal, free, multilingual home visiting program for families with new babies from birth to one year old
- Designed to give Somerville's newest residents – our newborns – the best start in life by providing a *Welcome Baby Bag* with resources and a few gifts
- A SomerBaby home visitor can help you make connections to resources to support your family, healthy child development, and school readiness!

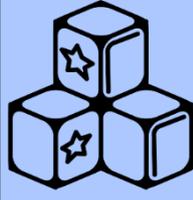
## To schedule a visit, please contact:

Name	Language	Phone	Email
Flor Apolaya	Spanish/English	617-625-6600 x6702	fapolaya@k12.somerville.ma.us
Maria Holz	Portuguese/English	617-625-6600 x2345	mholz@somervillema.gov
Rachel Wilensky	English	617-625-6600 x2344	rwilensky@somervillema.gov

Or sign up online at: <http://somerville.k12.ma.us/somberbaby>

# Somerville Prenatal to 3 Year Old Programs

*Free, Multilingual Early Childhood programs and resources for new parents and families:*

						
<b>Program</b>	<b>Spanish Language Prenatal Class</b>	<b>SomerBaby Home Visiting Program</b>	<b>Parent Child + Literacy Home Visiting Program</b>	<b>Discover &amp; Learn Playgroups</b>	<b>Parent &amp; Guardian Support Groups</b>	<b>Resources and Referrals</b>
<b>Contact</b>	Flor Apolya <a href="mailto:fapolya@k12.Somerville.ma.us">fapolya@k12.Somerville.ma.us</a> 617-625-6600 x6702	Rachel Wilensky <a href="mailto:rwilensky@somervillema.gov">rwilensky@somervillema.gov</a> 617-625-6600 x2344	Fernanda Villar <a href="mailto:fvillar@k12.Somerville.ma.us">fvillar@k12.Somerville.ma.us</a> 617-625-6600 x6992	Michelle Laskey <a href="mailto:sfn@k12.Somerville.ma.us">sfn@k12.Somerville.ma.us</a> 617-625-6600 x6990	Michelle Laskey <a href="mailto:sfn@k12.Somerville.ma.us">sfn@k12.Somerville.ma.us</a> 617-625-6600 x6990	Nomi Davidson <a href="mailto:ndavidson@k12.Somerville.ma.us">ndavidson@k12.Somerville.ma.us</a> 617-625-6600 x6966
<b>Families Served</b>	First class in November!	281 Families to date	51 Families 14 Family Child Care Providers For 2019	~210 Families 14 Playgroups in Session 1	~43 Families 3 Groups in Session 1	1,419 Referrals 2018-2019

# Lead Service Line Replacement Program

- Check to see if your residence has a water service line made of lead?  
→ [somervillema.gov/LeadServices](https://www.somervillema.gov/LeadServices)
- Have your property's lead or non-copper water service line replaced, **free of charge**
- Applications due by December 2019 to be considered for replacement starting Spring 2020

More information on the website above or call the Engineering Dept. at **617-625-6600 Ext. 5400**



# Rethinking Reusable/Recyclable Materials

Regional and global changes mean we must be very careful about **contamination**

## Do Recycle:

- Clean metal, glass, rigid plastic, and paper containers
- Clean paper and cardboard

## Don't Recycle:

- Plastic bags
- Plastic wrap or film
- Anything with food on it

Not sure how to dispose of something?



Enter the item name in the Somerville Waste Wizard below to find out.

Waste Wizard English Share

[My Schedule](#) [Waste Wizard](#) [Need help?](#)

Type the name of an item and we'll tell you how to recycle or dispose of it.

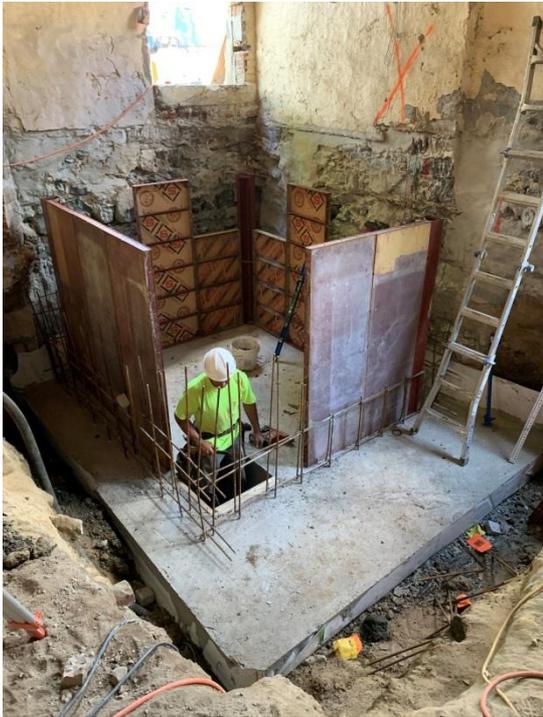
[Privacy](#) | [Terms of Service](#) | [Cookie Policy](#)

[Somervillema.gov/Wizard](https://Somervillema.gov/Wizard)

[RecycleSmartMA.org/FAQ](https://RecycleSmartMA.org/FAQ)

# West Branch Library

---



[SomervillePublicLibrary.org](http://SomervillePublicLibrary.org)

[somervillema.gov/WestBranchLibrary](http://somervillema.gov/WestBranchLibrary)

# Reminder: Register to Vote!

---



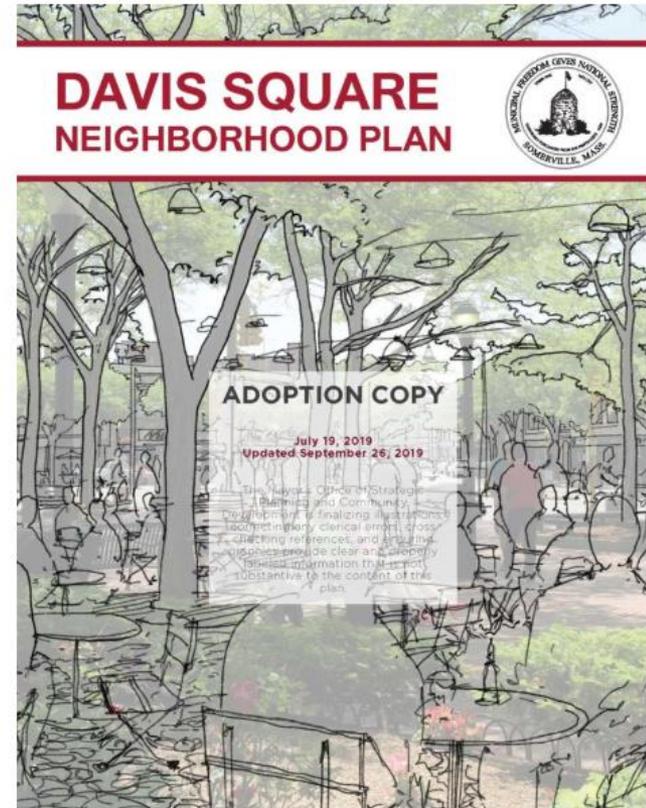
- Register to vote [online](#) or [mail](#) in a registration by **Wednesday, October 16 by 8 p.m.**
  - For the Nov. 5, 2019 City Election
- You may also register to vote in person at the Elections Department

[sommervillema.gov/elections](http://sommervillema.gov/elections)

# Davis Square Neighborhood Plan

---

- Presented to the Planning Board on Sept. 26
  - Download/view the plan at [somerbydesign.com/neighborhoods/davis](https://somerbydesign.com/neighborhoods/davis)
- Written testimony open until Nov. 1
  - Please send comments to [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov)



# Powder House Blvd.

---



# Seven Hills Park Grass Restoration

---



# Brown School Yard & West Somerville Neighborhood School Yard

---



Stay tuned: upcoming community meeting in late October/early Nov.

For more information, contact Arn Franzen

**[Afranzen@somervillema.gov](mailto:Afranzen@somervillema.gov)**

# Green Line Extension Updates

---

- Project is on schedule to be open by end of 2021
- **Bridge Closure Updates:**
  - Broadway bridge on track to reopen March 2020
  - Washington St. bridge now expected throughout the winter but will reopen April 2020 instead of Fall 2020
  - Medford St. bridge – **Will reopen late spring 2020**
  - School St. bridge expected to close early spring 2020
- **Next public meeting:** November 2019

# We Remain Vigilant Regarding Traffic Management

---

- An interdepartmental team to coordinate with state partners
  - Fire, Police, Mobility, Engineering, Traffic and Parking, Communications and other staff

## **Three pronged approach**

1. Advance planning
2. Daily monitoring
3. Rapid response

- **Reboot Your Commute campaign with the GLX team**
- **96** neighboring cities and town, **84** media outlets, **29** medical facilities, **26** colleges, and large employers in the area

If you have concerns regarding traffic or detours, please continue to report them to **311** or to **construction@somervillema.gov**

# Stay Informed

---



- **MassDOT GLX Updates**
  - [mass.gov/GLX](https://mass.gov/GLX)
- **City of Somerville Construction Resources**
  - Newsletter: [somervillema.gov/ConstructionNewsletter](https://somervillema.gov/ConstructionNewsletter)
  - Website: [somervillema.gov/Construction](https://somervillema.gov/Construction)
- **City Alerts**
  - [somervillema.gov/alerts](https://somervillema.gov/alerts)
- **City Newsletter**
  - [somervillema.gov/Enews](https://somervillema.gov/Enews)

# SOMERVILLE FIRE DEPT. RESPONSE TIMES & CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

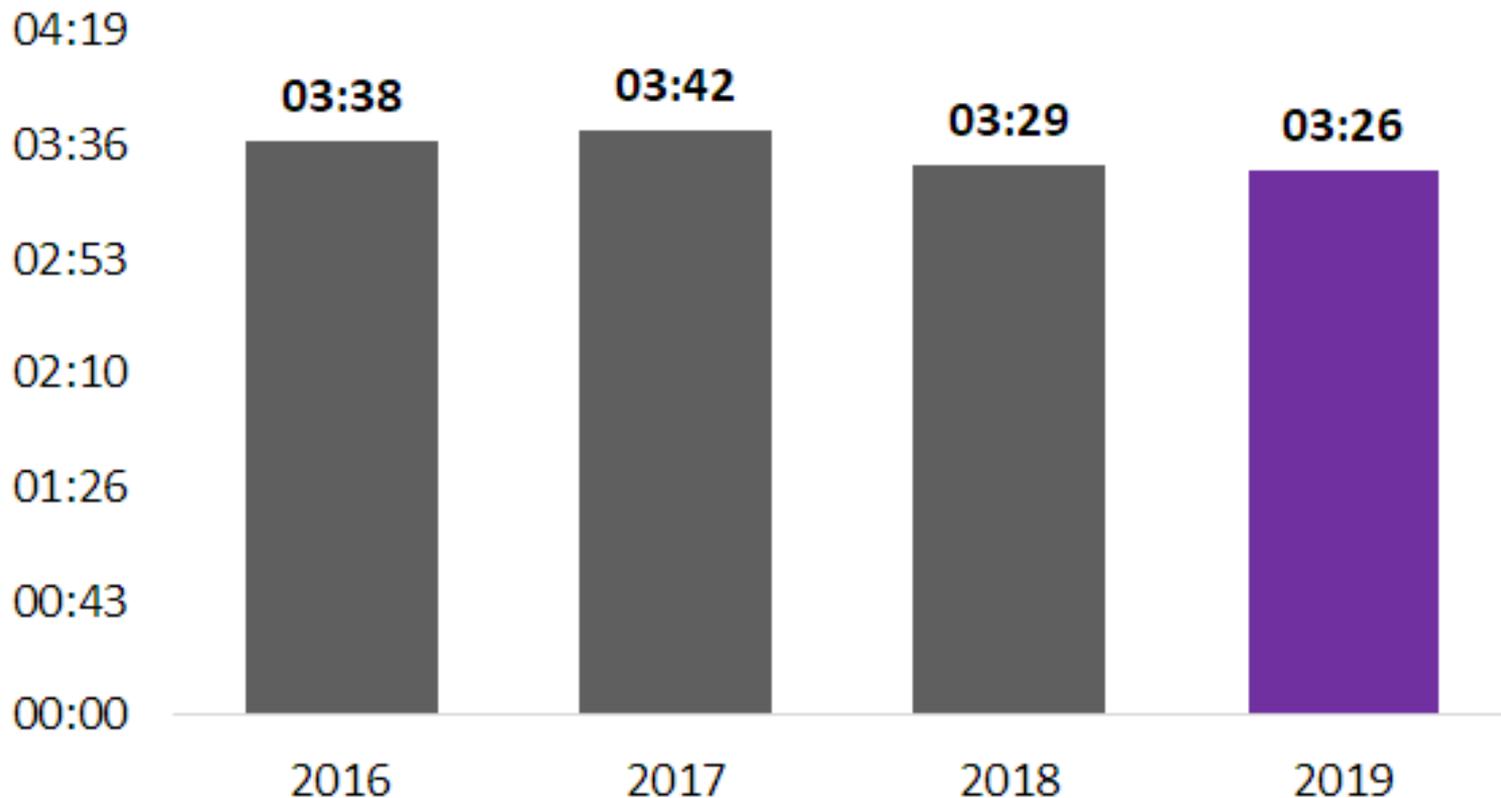
---



Chief Charles Breen

# Response Times Through Construction

**Avg. Citywide SFD Emergency Response Time:  
Construction Period (April through September)**





Saturday, November 16  
10 a.m. to Noon



# Career Open House

---

Somerville Fire Department Headquarters  
266 Broadway

Want to Learn More?

Contact the Somerville Personnel Dept. at **617-625-6600 x3300**

Or Email Talent Acquisition Manager, Jennifer Mancia at **Jdutra@somervillema.gov**

**[somervillema.gov/BecomeAFirefighter](https://www.somervillema.gov/BecomeAFirefighter)**

# SOMERVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

---

Chief David Fallon

# Ward 6 Crime

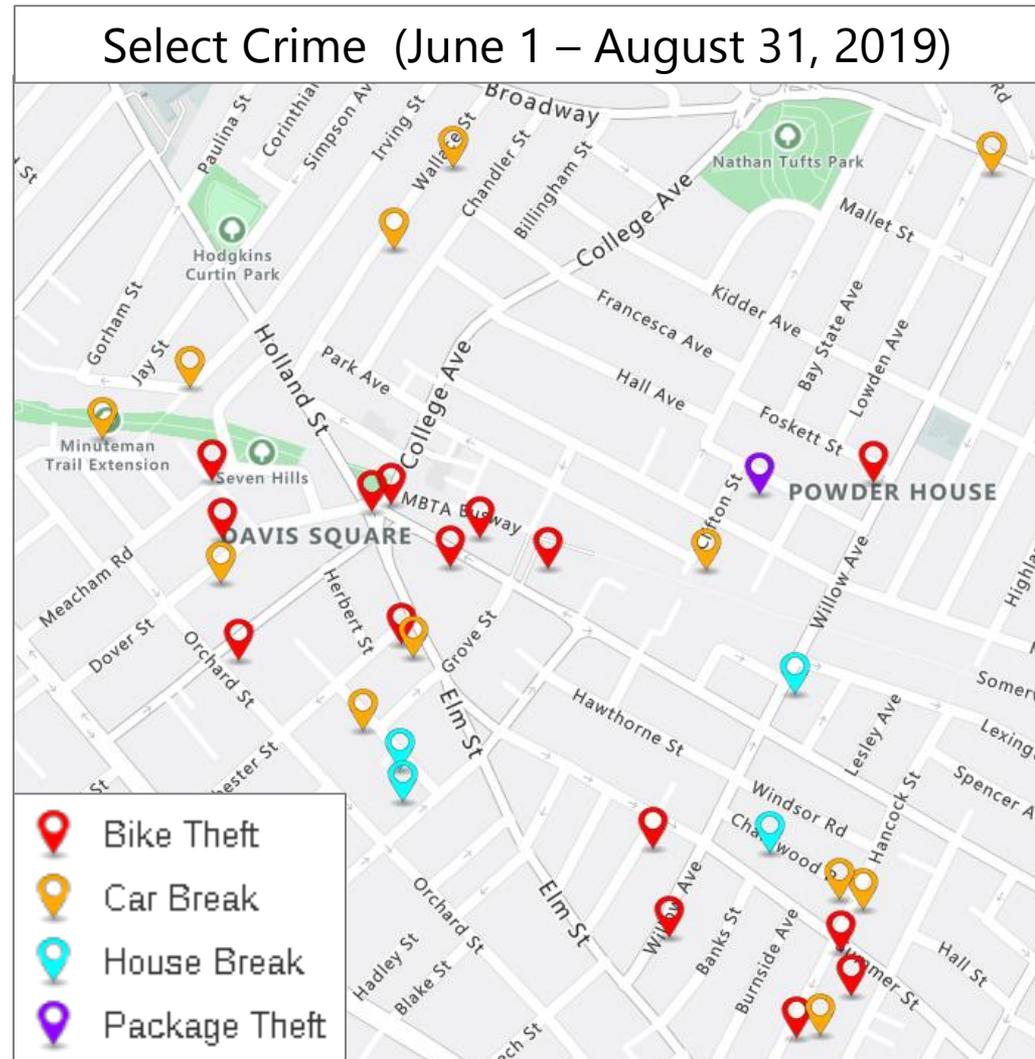
## Index Crime Trends

### Citywide:

- Index crime decreased 2% over one year and 3% over two years

### Ward 6:

- Index crime increased 14% over one year primarily due to spikes in bike theft and commercial B&Es.
- Violent crime decreased 11% over one year



Index crime statistics based on previous 12 months (9/1/18 – 8/31/19) year-over-year

# Ward 6 Crime

## Bike Theft



### Residents:

- Always lock your bike to a fixed object (even if stored inside a garage or shed)
- Be wary of cable locks which are easily cut with wire cutters
- Never lock your bike to wooden posts that can be broken
- Take indoors overnight, if possible. If not, store somewhere with low street visibility (back yard, back porch, etc.) – but always locked.
- Keep a file of bike serial numbers and photos

### SPD Efforts:

- Sergeant assigned to oversee bike theft investigations
- Prioritize suspect identification and bike recovery
- Analyze temporal and geographical patterns of incidents
- Neighborhood Police Officers and Area Cars deployed based on temporal patterns and hot spots
- Increase residents' awareness of crime prevention methods

# Youth Engagement Successes

- **Basketball Clinic for Somerville Youth**
  - SPD Officers held a basketball clinic for youth ages 10 – 19 yo, every Tues. & Thurs., July 16 – August 29<sup>th</sup>
- **Junior Police Academy**
  - Held two one-week Academies with a total of 61 graduates, ages 11 – 14 yo
  - Activities included: District Attorney Marian Ryan presentation, National Guard fitness challenge, CPR training, Cataldo first aid presentation, K-9 presentations, team building, daily physical fitness



# Accreditation

The Somerville Police Department was awarded Accreditation by the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission (MPAC) on June 4, 2019.



Accreditation is a self-initiated evaluation process by which police departments strive to meet and maintain standards that have been established for the profession, by the profession. These carefully selected standards reflect critical areas of police management, operations, and technical support activities. They cover areas such as policy development, emergency response planning, training, communications, property and evidence handling, use of force, vehicular pursuit, prisoner transportation and holding facilities. The program not only sets standards for the law enforcement profession, but also for the delivery of police services to citizens of the commonwealth.

# Substance Misuse, Mental Health, Domestic Violence, and Sexual Assault Support

	Contact	Service	Contact Info.
Substance Misuse	MA Substance Use Hotline	Treatment program info	800-327-5050
	Cambridge Health Alliance	Walk-ins Tue. 11:30; MA Health accepted	617-591-6051
	Caspar First Step Outreach	Assist in accessing detox.	617-661-0600
	Riverside Community Care	Outpatient; MA Health accepted	617-623-3278
	North Charles	Maintenance therapy; MA Health only	617-661-5700
	Column Health	Counseling, medication assisted treatment	339-368-7696
	Learn 2 Cope	Family support; Mon. 7 PM	1575 Cambridge St, CAM
	Family Anonymous	Family support; Tue. 7 PM	121 Washington St, MEF
Mental Health	Cambridge Health Alliance	Inpatient & outpatient services	Adults: 617-591-6033 Juveniles: 617-665-3458
	BEST Team	Psychiatric emergency services; MA Health	800-981-4357
	Riverside – Child Guidance Center	Juvenile/family services	617-354-2275
	Neighborhood Counseling & Community Services	Counseling, skill & strength-based strategies	781-600-6074
Domestic Violence	RESPOND	Shelter, crisis hotline, services, education	Hotline: 617-623-5900 Services: 617-440-7267
	Maureen Dipaolo, SPD Family Services	Victim Witness Advocacy	617-625-1600 x 7279
Sexual Assault	BARCC (Boston Area Rape Crisis Center)	Free legal consultation, counseling, and education for survivors and family members of survivors	Hotline: 800-841-8371 <a href="https://barcc.org">https://barcc.org</a>
Additional Services	Cambridge Health Alliance Victims of Violence Program	Adult out-patient trauma clinic providing mental health services for crime victims	617-591-6360
	De Novo	Free civil legal assistance and affordable psychological counseling for low-income people	617-661-1010 Denovo.org

# RECENT FLOODING

Richard E. Raiche, PE, PMP

Director of Infrastructure & Asset Management



# Example: Lake Street



**June 29, 2019**



**September 2, 2019**

# Flooding is a Citywide Concern for:



Public Safety and Health



Property Damage



Combined Sewer Overflows  
(CSOs)

# Weather Events Linked to Flooding

## Precipitation-Based Flooding



### **Short bursts of intense rain**

Rainfall intensity exceeds 0.3 inches within a 15 minute period



### **Sustained rains**

Long duration storms



### **Snow melts**

Ice and snow can block catch basins

## Coastal Flooding

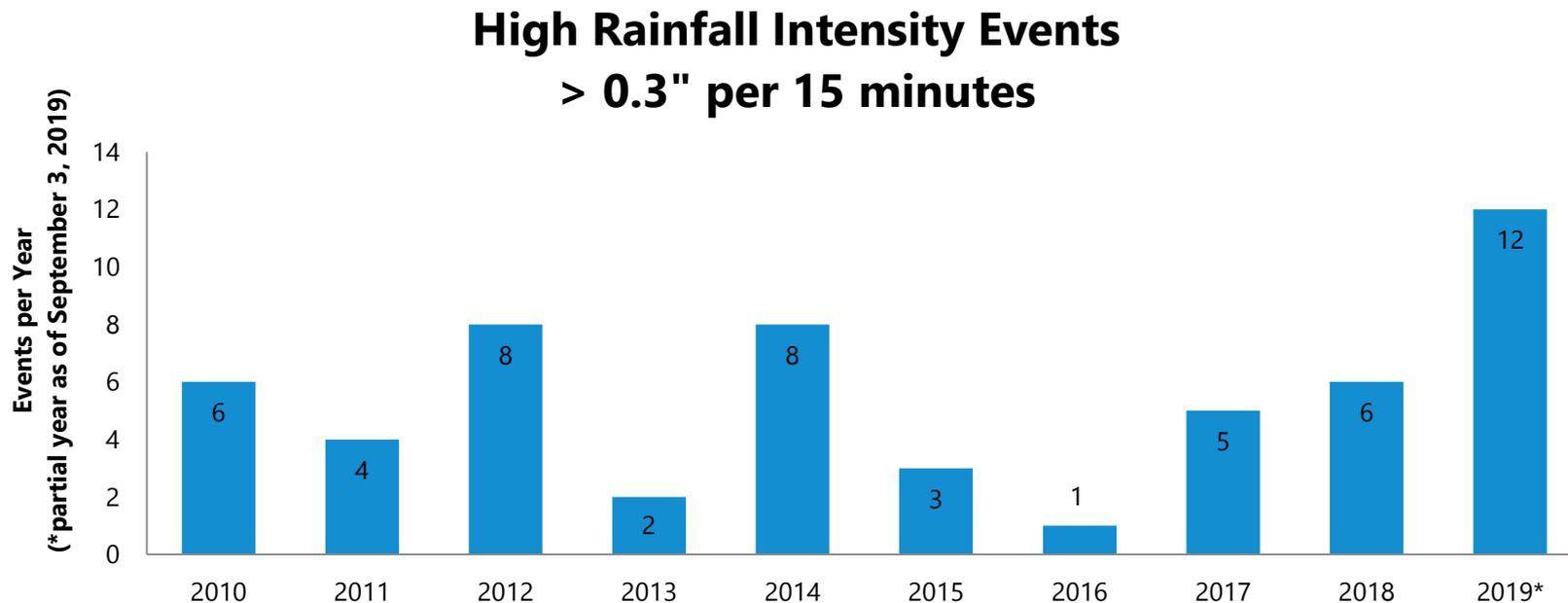


### **Storm surge**

Such as NYC experienced during Hurricane Sandy

# We've Seen More Events of High Rainfall Intensity in 2019

Climate change is expected to increase rainfall intensity over time.



Data source: United States Geological Survey, collected at Fresh Pond in Cambridge, MA

# City Response

- During Flood Events
  - Sewer dispatches crew(s) to respond to constituent reports of active flooding
    - Crew assesses basin and system condition
    - Crew disperses flood where possible
- After Flood Events
  - Engineering receives email reports to inform long-term system improvement plans

# Problems are Deeper than Emergency Response



## Pipe Capacity and Development Density

Limited space for the rainfall to travel



## Pipe Condition

Pipe breaks and debris inhibit flow



## Climate Change

Increased precipitation, storm surge intensity, and sea level rise will affect the Northeast



## Geography

Some areas of the City are more prone to flooding due to elevation



## Catch Basin Condition

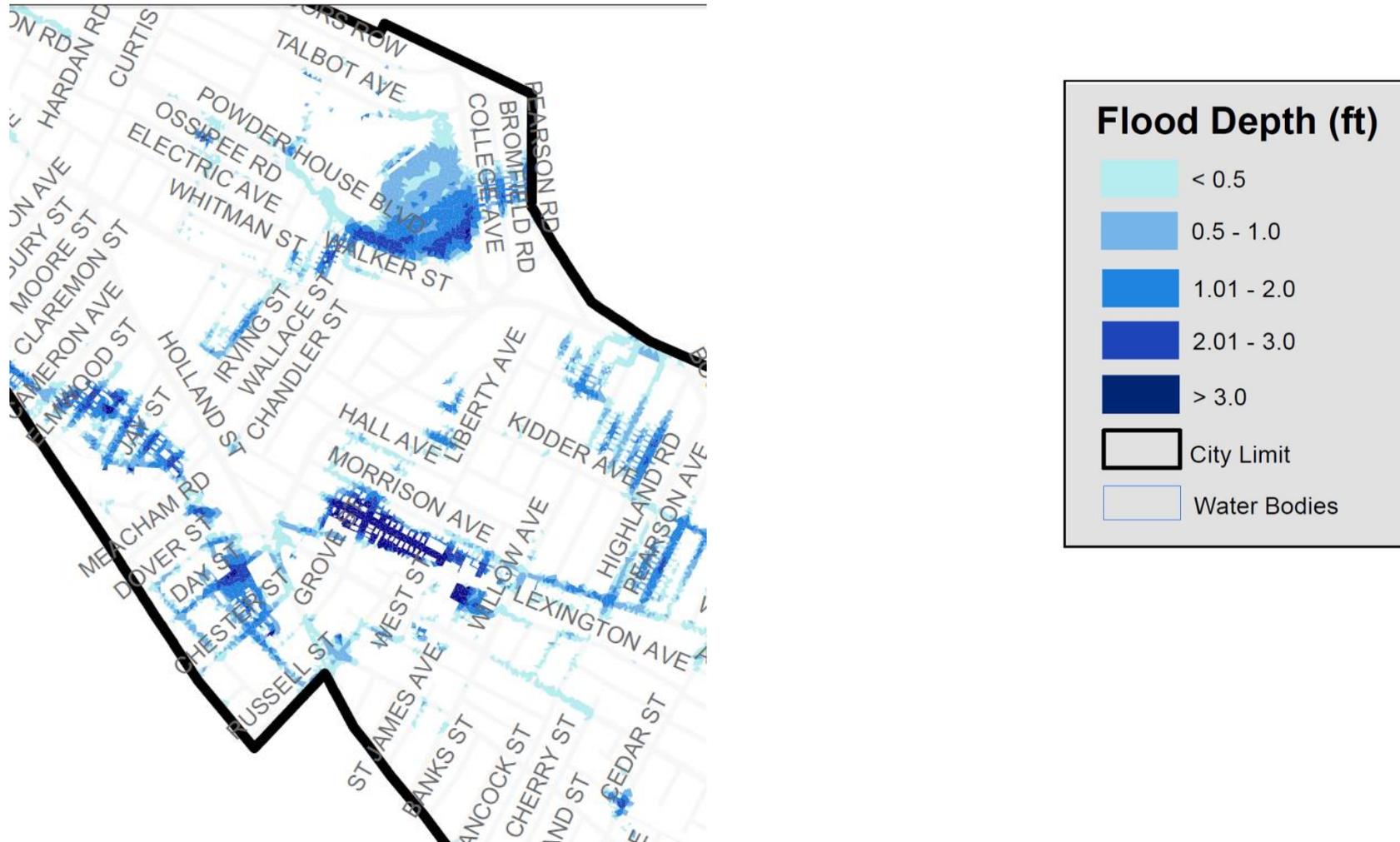
Without regular cleaning and maintenance, flow can't reach pipes

# Path to Long-Term Fixes

Starting point 2018		Study/prioritize 2019		Design/build 2019 +	
Project	CIP Cost Estimate (FY19-FY28)	Project	CIP Cost Estimate (FY19-FY28)	Project	CIP Cost Estimate (FY19-FY28)
<b>Somerville Ave. Utility &amp; Streetscape Improvement</b>	<b>\$39.07M</b> Sewer Enterprise (USQ DIF) + MassWorks	<b>Sewer System Evaluation Study and Asset Management Plan</b>	<b>\$10.35M</b> Sewer Enterprise	<b>Poplar St. Stormwater Pump Station</b>	<b>\$21.37M</b> Sewer Enterprise (USQ DIF)
		<b>Hydraulic Modeling and System Improvement Analysis</b>	<b>\$1M</b> Sewer Enterprise (Annual OM)	<b>Spring Hill Sewer Separation</b>	<b>\$14.18M</b> Sewer Enterprise (USQ DIF)
				<b>Sewer Separation Projects (3)</b>	<b>\$50.82M</b> Sewer Enterprise, MWRA, I/I

*Please note that dollar amounts are for FY19 CIP spending forward. These do not include prior year spending.*

# Flood Mapping - Ward 6



(100y, 2070, REC, SLR100y2070)

# In the meantime...

- Flood risk communication



# Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

---



# Thinking Outside the Big Box

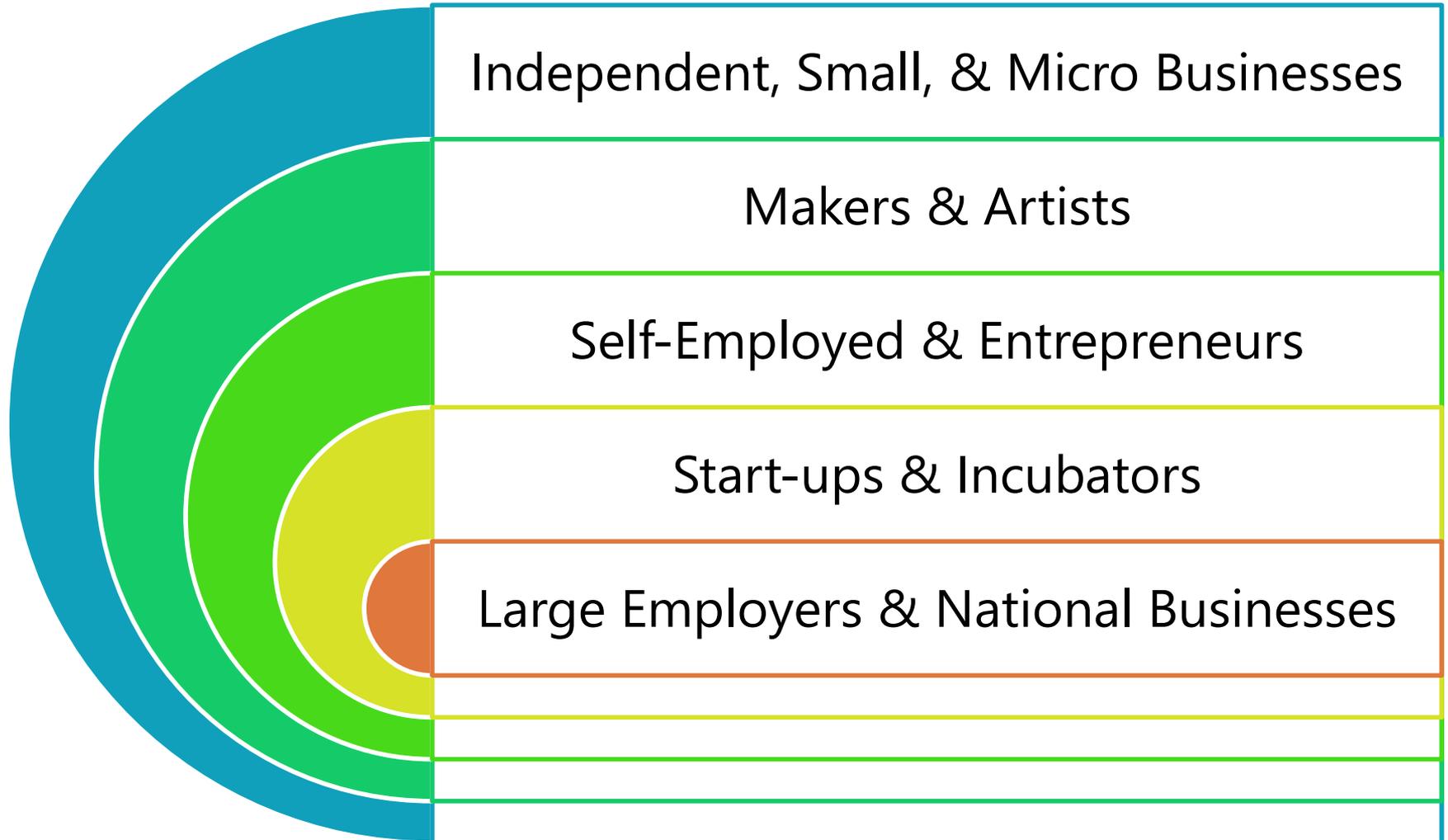
---

Helping our Alternative Economies and  
Small Business Community

Adapt & Thrive in a Changing World

**Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone**

# Diversity of Our Local Economy



Our Economic  
Diversity  
Defines Us,  
Supports Our  
Community  
Goals, and  
Builds Our  
Unique  
Quality of Life



Walkability

Sustainability



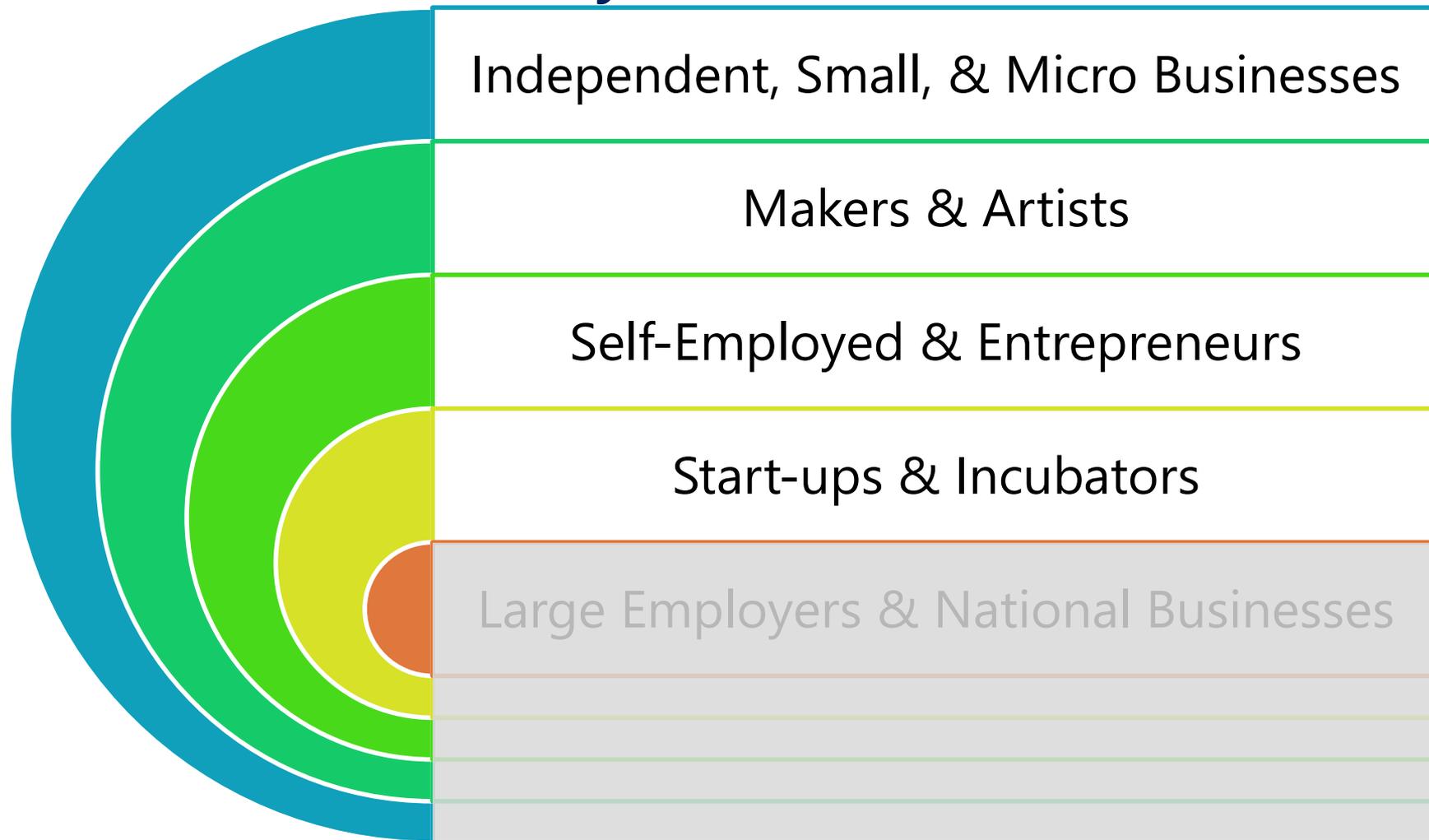
Diversity

Community



Jobs

# Focusing on our Alternative & Small Business Economy



How does this  
impact you?

A few examples...

# A Key Part of our Local Ecosystem: **Sustainability**

- **1/3** of Somerville's green house gas emissions come from transportation, with nearly **60%** of that coming from passenger vehicles.

If we want to reduce GHG emissions from transportation we need to:

Shift trips away from cars



Have nearby shops and amenities that make it easier to not drive



Have small businesses in squares and neighborhoods across the city



Support work models that require less commuting

# A Key Part of our Local Ecosystem: **Affordability**

- Residential taxes, which are based on a house's value and the tax rate, are a driver of affordability.

If we want to keep residential tax rates low we need to:

**Shift more of taxes from residential to commercial**



**Commercial taxes, meals taxes, and sales taxes help offset residential taxes**



**Help small businesses thrive and welcome new ones so those funds increase**

# A Key Part of our Local Ecosystem: **Quality of Life**

- Our Happiness Survey showed correlations between residents' overall happiness and factors like availability of cultural events, the physical setting of their neighborhood, and happiness with their neighborhood.

If we want residents to be happy living in Somerville we need to:

**Have vibrant neighborhoods and squares**



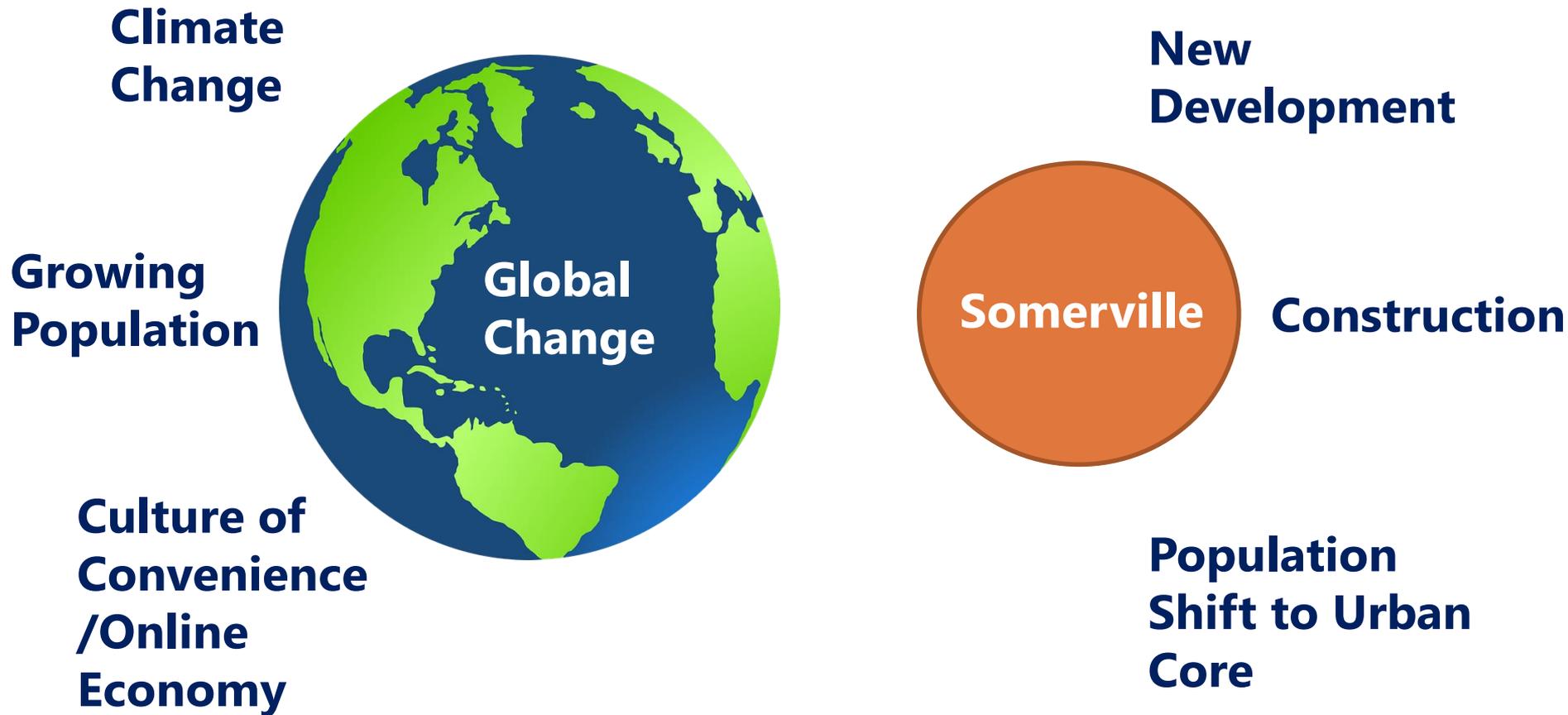
```
graph LR; A[Have vibrant neighborhoods and squares] --> B[Mobility improvements, density, and cultural events bring people in]; B --> C[Local businesses provide services, amenities, and sense of community]
```

**Mobility improvements, density, and cultural events bring people in**

**Local businesses provide services, amenities, and sense of community**

# But We Are All Experiencing Local & Global Change

---



How Do We Adapt and Approach these Challenges with Flexibility?

# At the Same Time, Our Local, Independent Businesses Face Many Challenges:



**Survival  
Now**

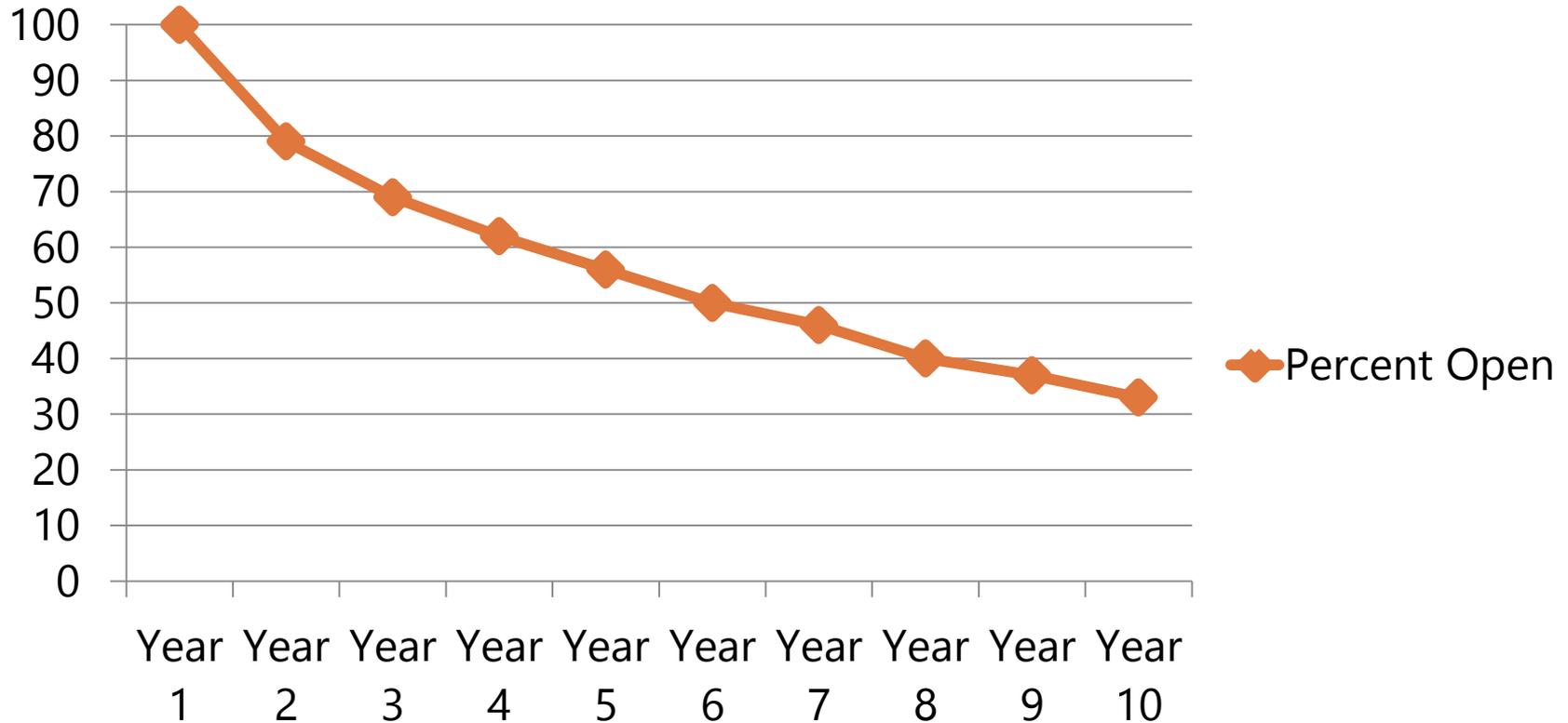
**Resiliency  
& Adaptability**

**Stronger  
Future**

The old model of economic development wasn't addressing current challenges that small, micro, alternative, and start-up businesses face, so the City began thinking creatively about how to address modern economic development needs.

# Half of Small Businesses Fail Within 5 Years, Two-Thirds Fail Within 10

## Percent of Small Businesses Remaining Open During First 10 Years



# Alternative Economic Development in Action

---

Connecting Customers and Small, Local  
Businesses

Supporting our creative economy

# Economic Development through the Arts

---

For every **\$1** we spend, we see **\$4.40** in economic impacts

## Direct Impact

- Money artists and vendors earn at events
- Money spent on supplies and promotion of events

## Indirect Impact

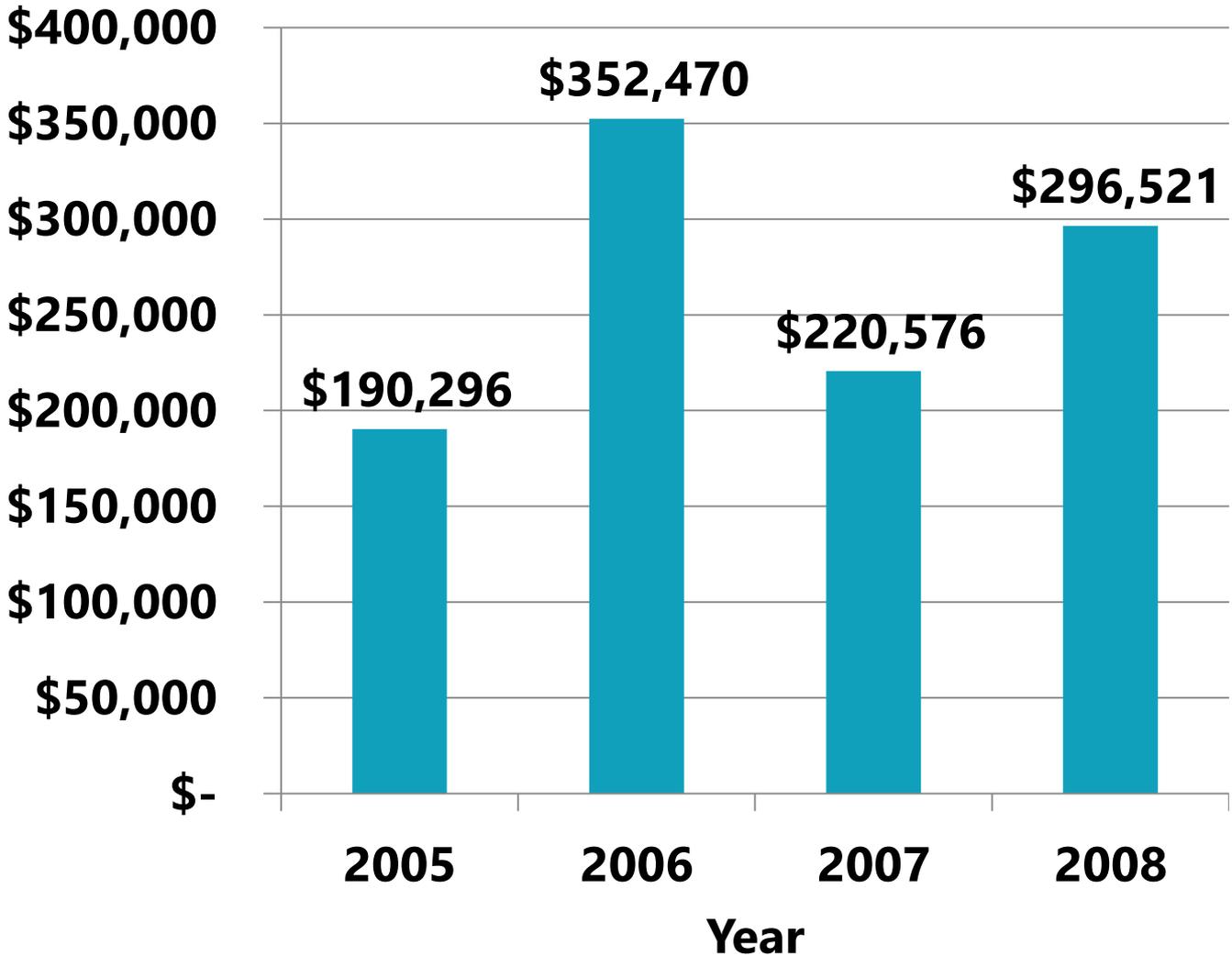
- Attendees patronizing nearby local businesses
- Placemaking brings people back to our businesses



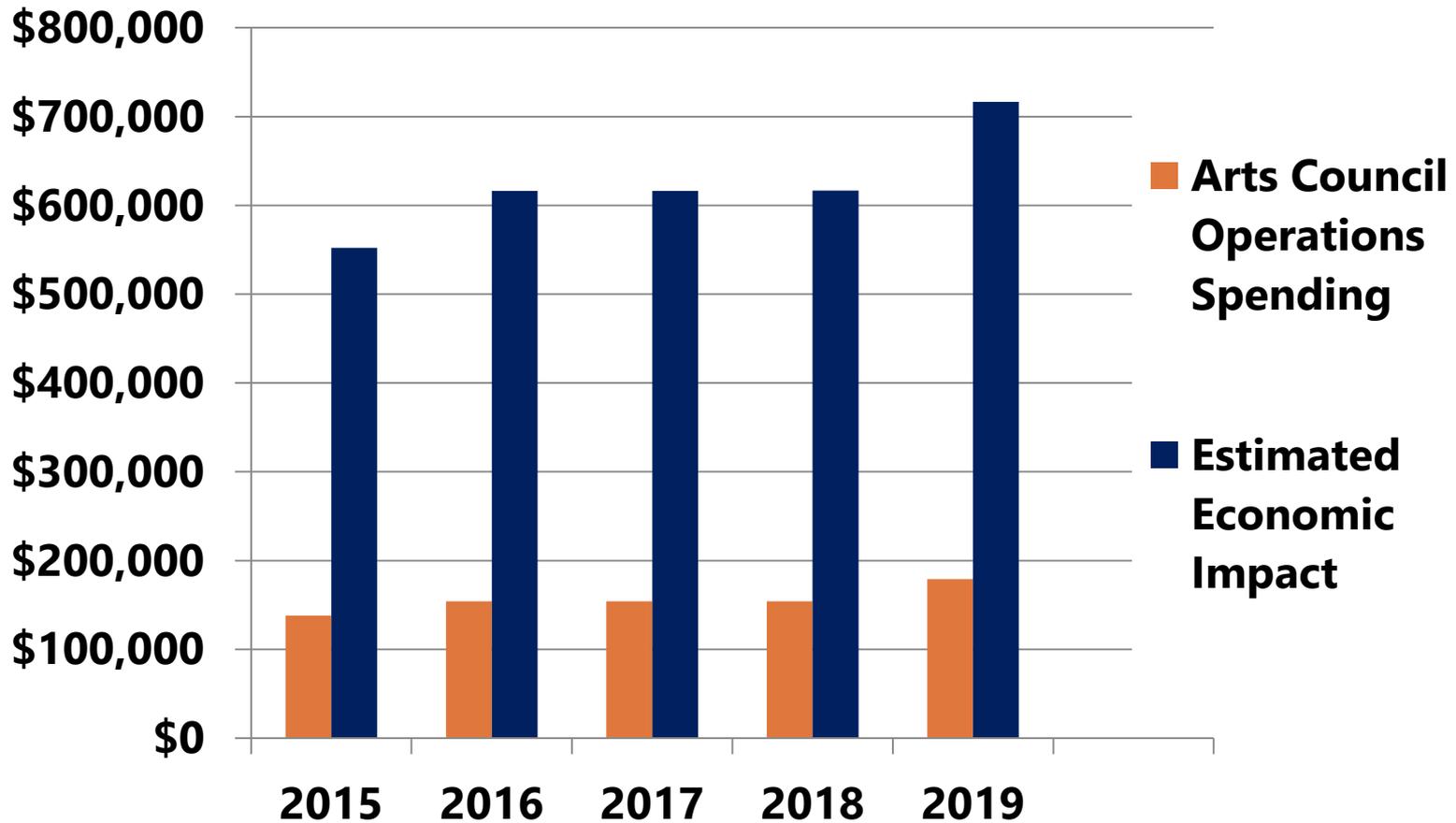
# Economic Development through the Arts



## Economic Impacts of ArtsUnion



# Arts Council Estimated Economic Impact: Approximately \$3M Over 5 Years



Conservatively estimates 4, not 4.4 times operational spending for economic impact and excludes grant funds expended, which would add additional impacts.

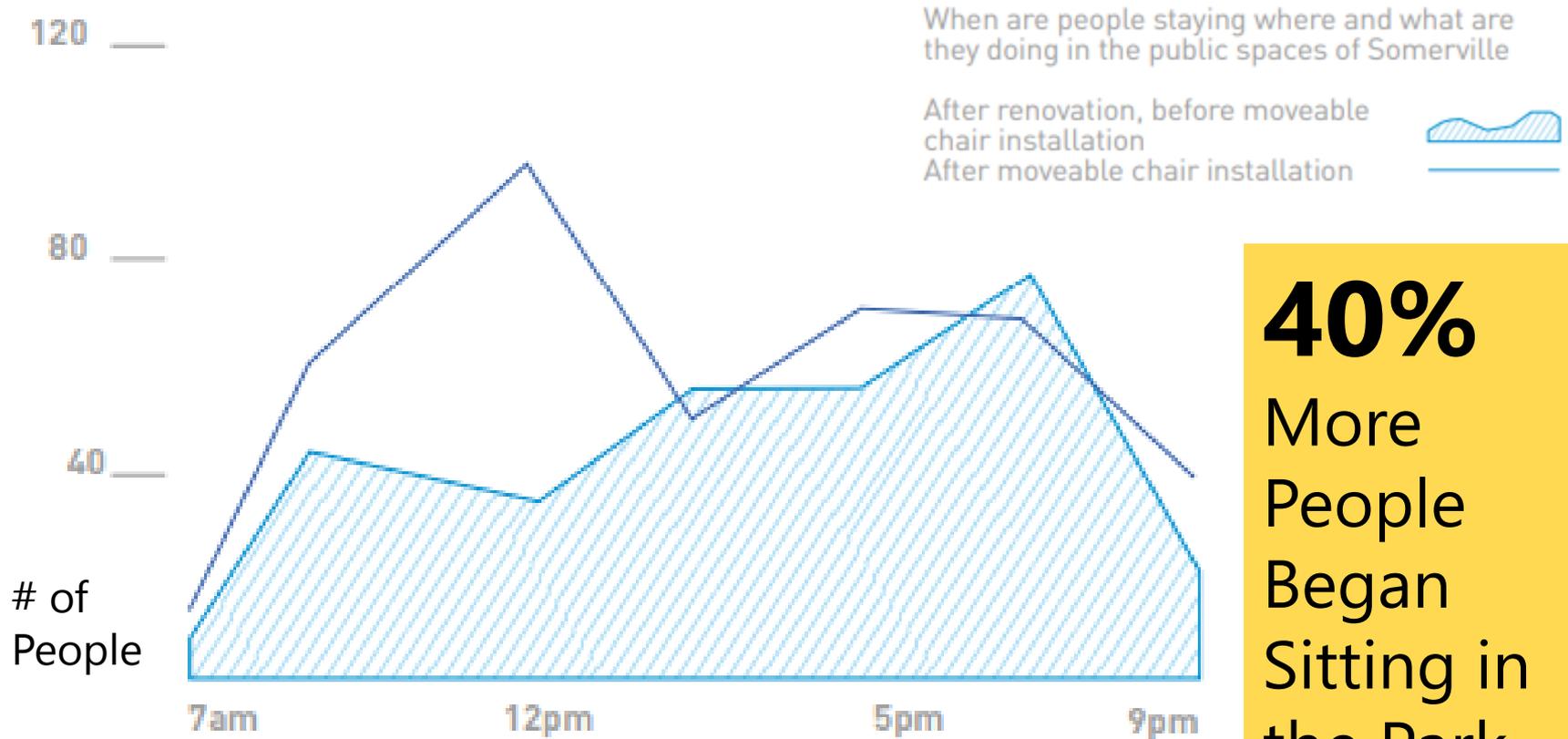
# Placemaking

People stick around in places they feel comfortable.

- Activity
- Outdoor furniture
- Parks and other open spaces
- Special events



# Placemaking – Furniture & water feature in Kenney Park



**40%**  
More  
People  
Began  
Sitting in  
the Park

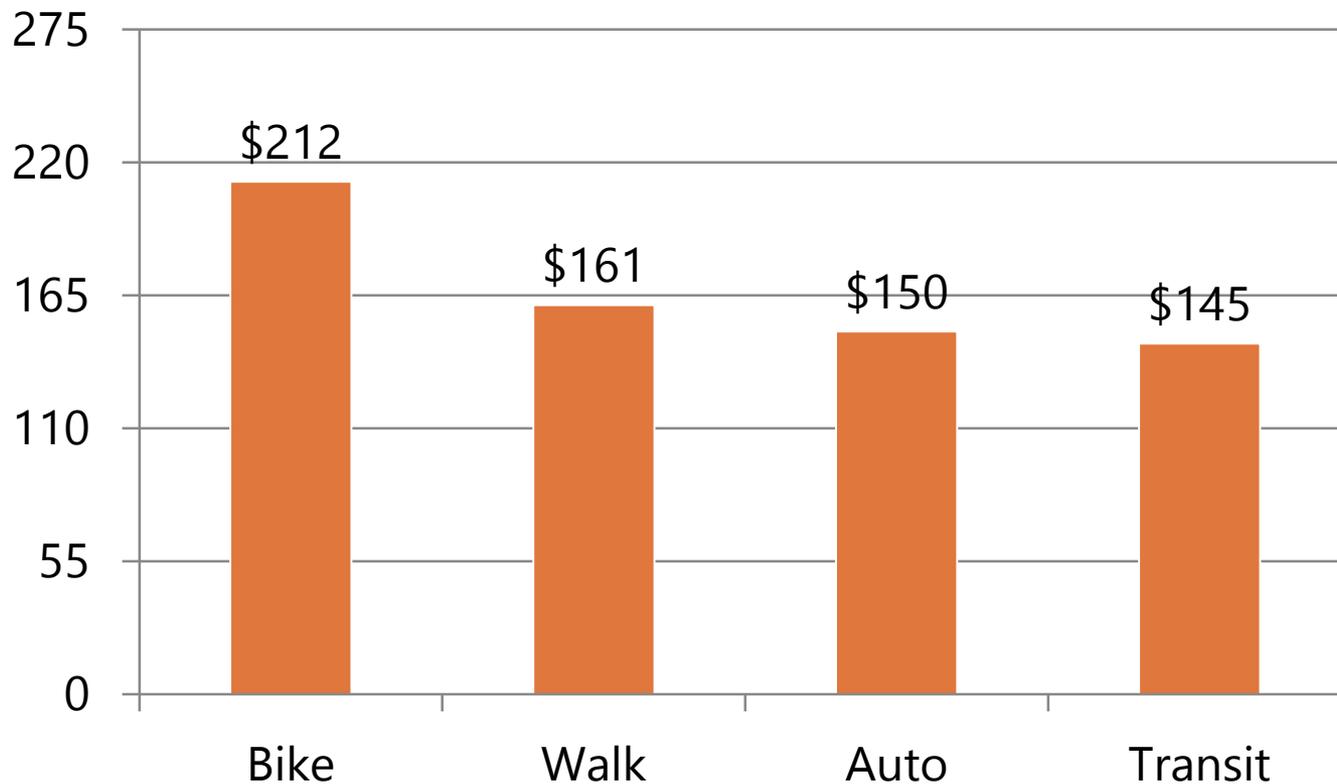
# Investing in Mobility is Investment in Local Business



Studies have found that when communities improve pedestrian and cycling infrastructure they gain net new businesses and private investment increases.

# Spending per Month by Travel Mode

Portland, OR, Study: Monthly spending on convenience stores, bars, restaurants



# Economic Development in Action

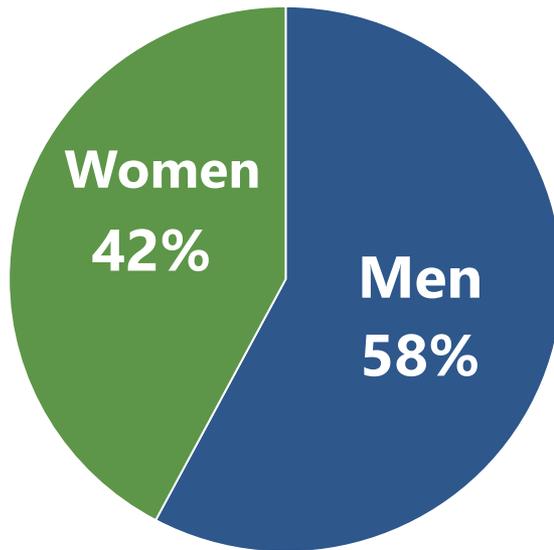
---

Lowering the Barriers to Entry

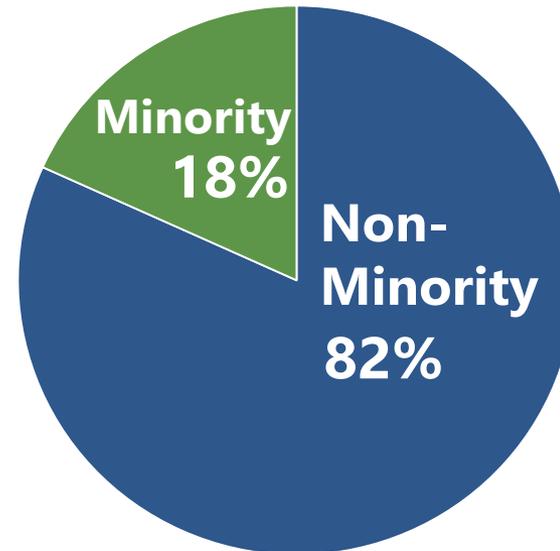


# Greater Equity Needed in Somerville Business Ownership

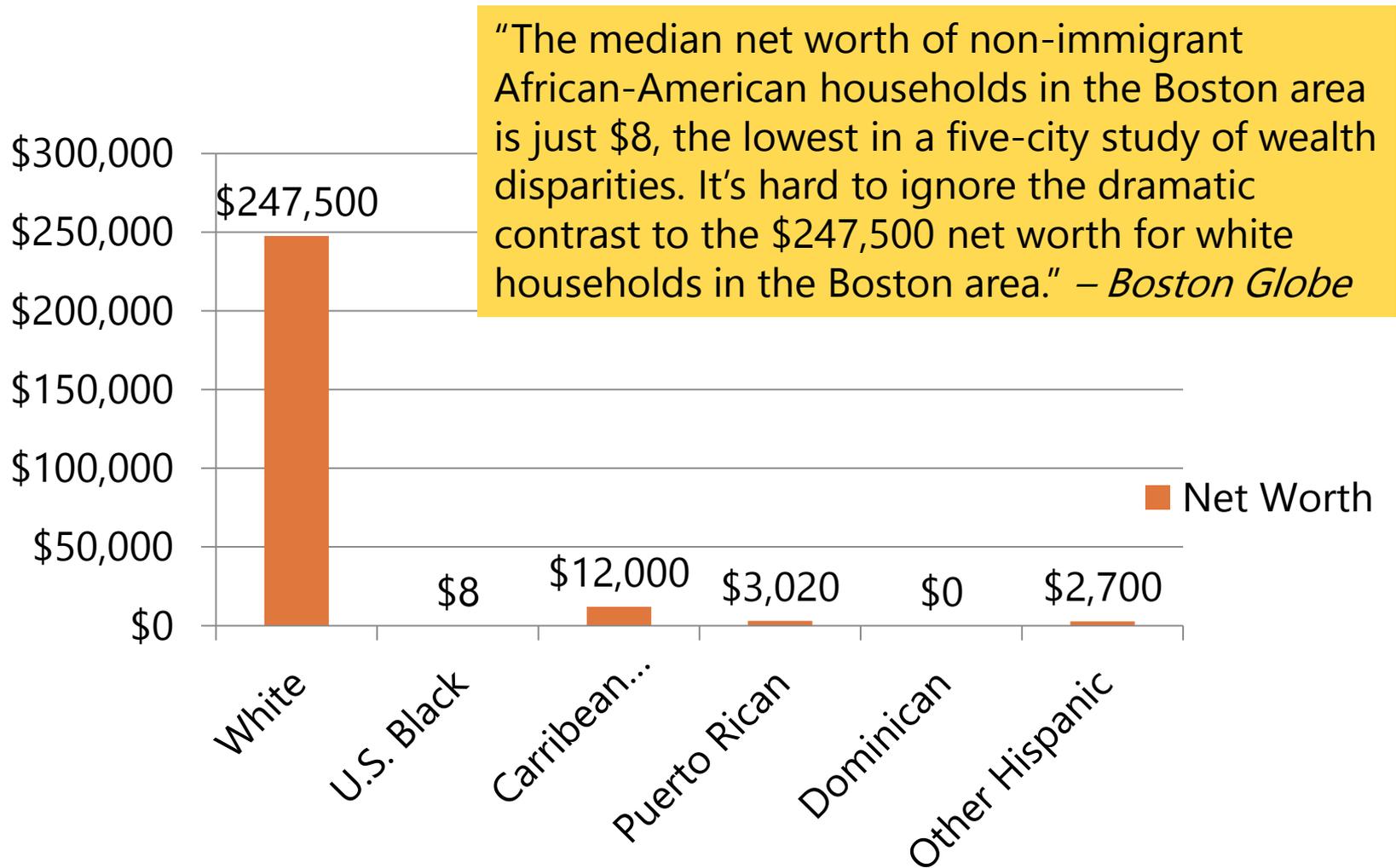
**Men-Owned vs. Women-Owned**



**Minority-Owned vs. Non-Minority-Owned**



# Boston Data on Racial Wealth Gap



# Opening Doors & Minds

**Nibble**  
Global Eats by Local Peeps

## Supporting **Diversity**

- **Immigrants are twice as likely to open a business**, often in the food industry
- **More than 40%** of food business owners in Union Square are immigrants
- Nibble: Representing **13 countries** including Venezuela, India, Mexico, Colombia, Somalia, Panama, Ethiopia

## Supporting **Equity**

- Help with permitting and certifications
- Multilingual services
- Lower start-up cost and overhead
- ADA Commercial Kitchen

## Two new restaurants:

Las Carolinas and Nibble Kitchen



# Regulations for Today's Reality



- **New Public Liquor Licenses**

- Existing businesses can increase the profit by ~20%
- Lowering the cost to enter the restaurant industry
- \$3,500-\$5,000 per license (with annual fees of \$2,000-\$3,500) vs. upwards of \$100k in Somerville and more than \$400k in Boston

- **Food Trucks**

- Flexibility
- Lower upfront costs
- Avoid challenge of real estate

# Economic Development in Action

---

Adapting to New Ways of Working

# Alternative Work Spaces & Room to Grow

- In 2016 there were **5.6 million** small and micro businesses in the U.S.

**98%**  
with fewer  
than 100  
employees

**89%**  
with  
fewer than  
20 employees

- Start ups and small businesses that need office or production space may not be able to afford or need large spaces
- We need places where businesses can begin and grow



# GREENTOWN LABS

## Incubator space for cleantech companies

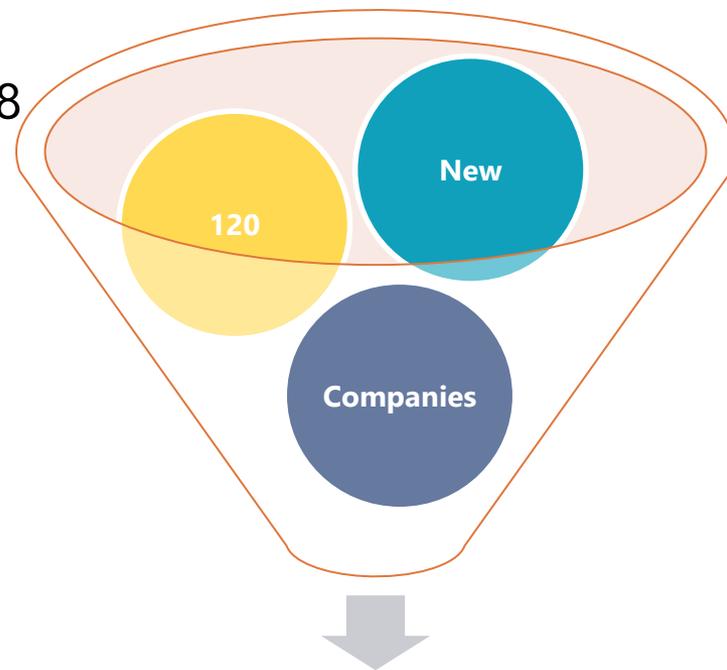
- Home to more than 120 companies
- Some have expanded and moved into their own larger spaces
- Created 900 jobs

## City support

- Helped find appropriate real estate
- Supported expansion with I-Fund loan
- Opportunities for companies to partner with Somerville

## Launching new larger companies within Somerville:

- RightHand Robotics
- L3
- Voxel 8



**900 New Jobs**

# Artisan's Asylum: One of the World's Largest Maker Spaces



## \$30M ESTIMATED LOCAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

- \$20M in venture capital to member companies
- \$4M in Kickstarter funding to launch member-made products
- 150 small businesses supported
- 100 jobs created
- 2,400 trained in fabrication arts each year, from jewelry to welding to 3D design

WE ARE A FABRICATION WONDERLAND



# Artisan's Asylum: City Support

- City facilitated their access to a Somerville location at their founding.
- Ongoing City partnerships both with Artisan's and with their members
- Donated SHS machining equipment after State grant provided schools with new equipment
- Zoning Overhaul would establish their current location as a permanent fabrication district.



**75%-80% are  
women-  
and/or  
minority-  
owned**

**Entrepreneur  
Network**

**Co-working  
spaces**

**Artist and  
making  
zoning**

**Supporting  
other ways  
of working**

**Economic  
Development  
programs that  
include  
entrepreneurs**

**Changed  
regulations  
for home-  
based  
businesses**

**Programs:  
Small Business  
Support and  
One Stop  
Shop**



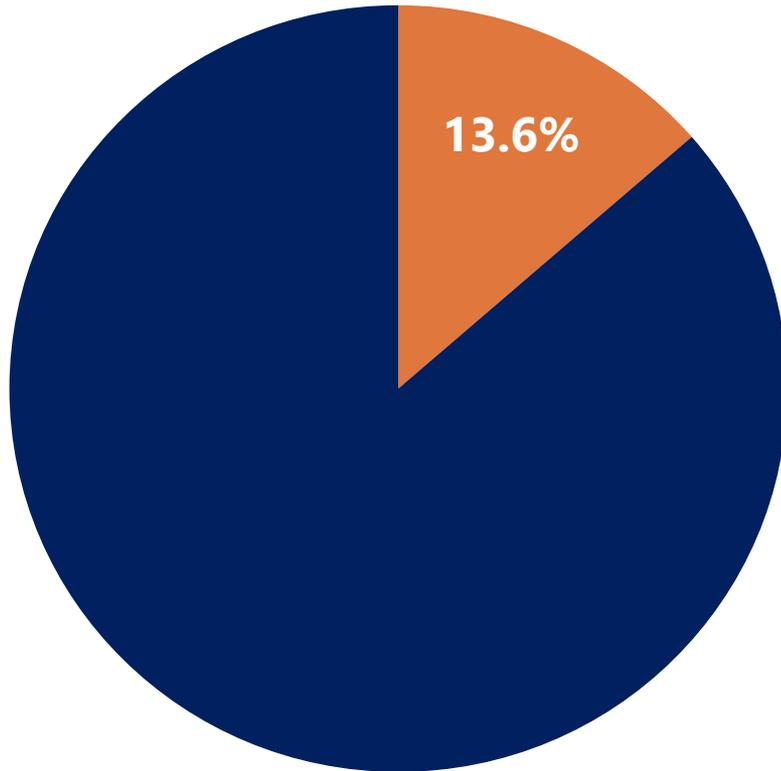
# Economic Development in Action

---

Investing in Ourselves

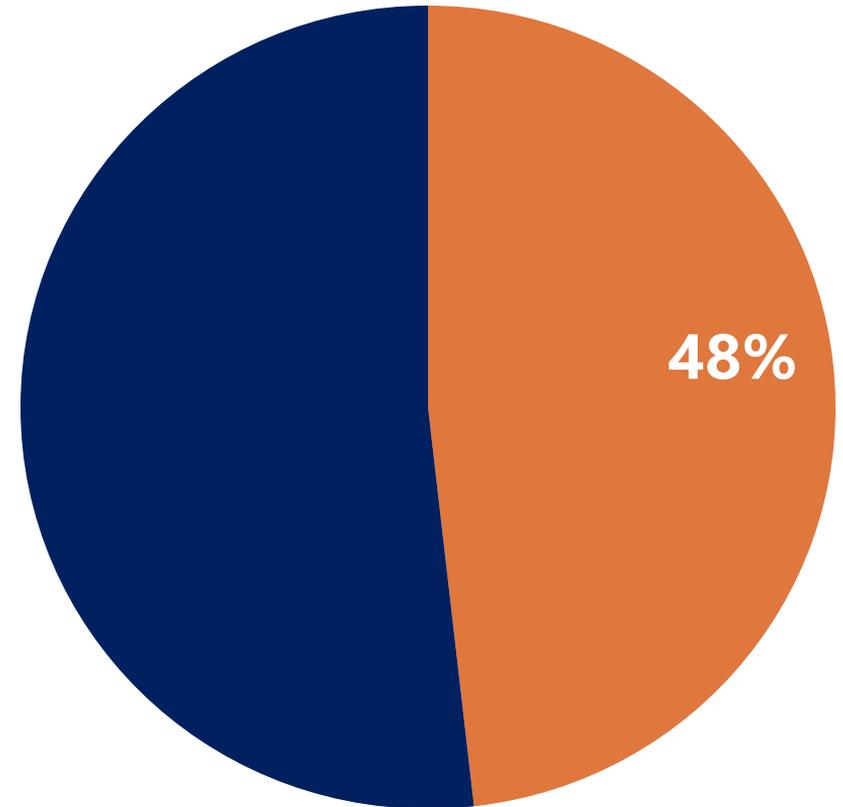
# Return on Investment of Spending Locally

## Chain Retailers



**Local Recirculation of Revenue: 13.6%**

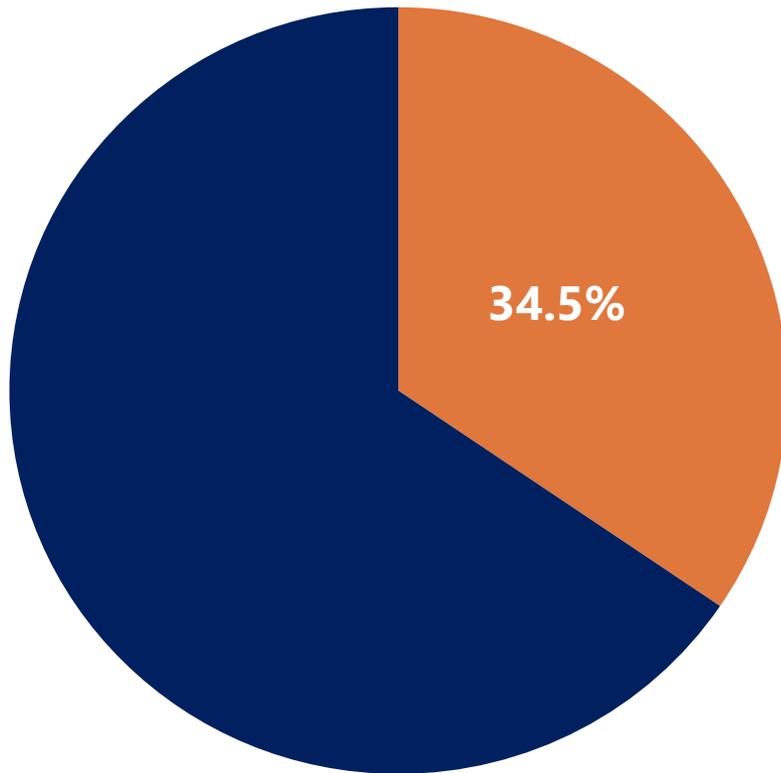
## Independents



**Local Recirculation of Revenue: 48%**

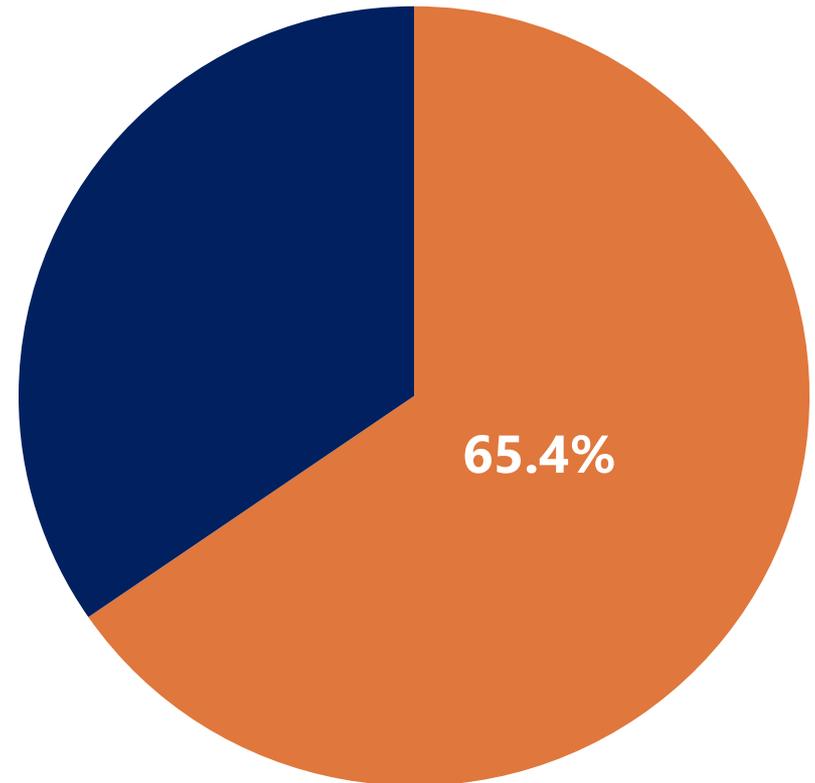
# Return on Investment of Spending Locally

## Chain Restaurants



**Local Recirculation of Revenue: 34.5%**

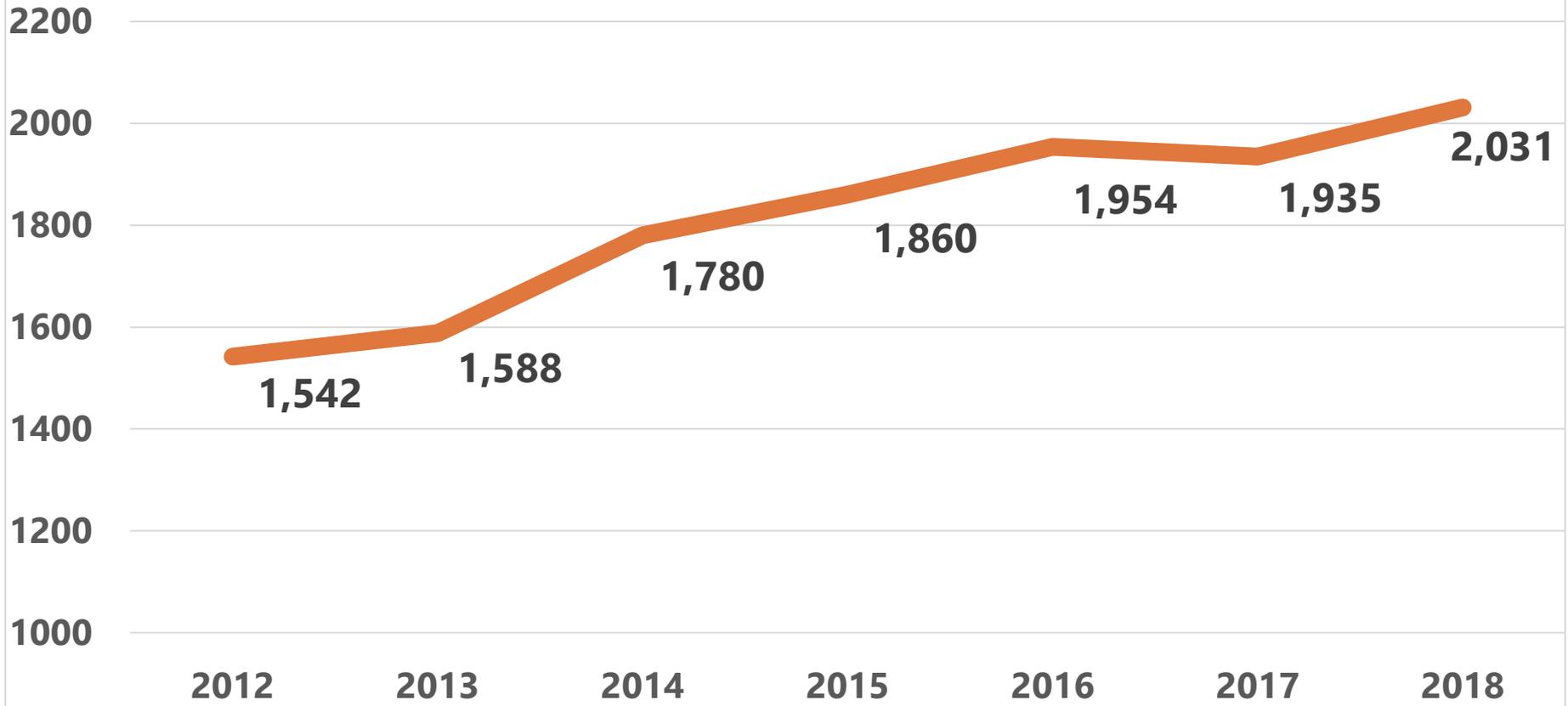
## Independents



**Local Recirculation of Revenue: 65.4%**

# 489 Net New Businesses 2012-2018

Number of Businesses in Somerville



# Our Daily Choices Impact Our Future as a Community

---



If we enjoy the perks of having these local businesses here, it is up to us to support them.

Invest in Local Businesses,  
Invest in Our Somerville

# THANK YOU

---

Be Sure to Subscribe to the City Newsletter:

**[SomervilleMA.gov/Newsletter](https://SomervilleMA.gov/Newsletter)**